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U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

# MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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Gordon P. Eaton, Director

Reston, VA 20192

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For information, contact:

Patricia A. Plunkert, Commodity Specialist

Telephone: (703) 648-4979, Fax: (703) 648-7757

E-mail: [pplunker@usgs.gov](mailto:pplunker@usgs.gov)

Micheal George (Data), (703) 648-7962

MINES FaxBack: (703) 648-4999

Internet: <http://minerals.er.usgs.gov/minerals>

## ALUMINUM IN JUNE 1997

Domestic primary aluminum production in June was 296,170 metric tons. The average daily production rate was 9,872 tons, slightly higher than the rates for the previous month and for June 1996. Primary metal production for the first 6 months of 1997 was 1,785,806 tons, slightly higher than the 1,776,815 tons produced in the same period in 1996.

The monthly average U.S. spot or market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased from 78.7 cents per pound in May to 75.5 cents per pound in June, according to *Platt's Metals Week*. According to *American Metal Market*, the buying price for processed aluminum used beverage can (UBC) scrap decreased by a penny a pound in early June to a range of 57 to 59 cents per pound and remained at that level through the end of the month. According to *Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report*, the monthly average transaction price for aluminum UBC's decreased from 60.5 cents per pound in May to 58.5 cents per pound in June.

### Update

The monthly average spot or market price of primary aluminum ingot increased to 76.3 cents per pound in July. The *American Metal Market* buying price range for aluminum UBC scrap increased by a penny to 58 to 60 cents per pound on July 23. The price remained at this level through the end of the month.

### Publication of Interest

The Aluminum Association Inc. just released its *Aluminum Statistical Review for 1996*. The review is divided into five major sections: supply, shipments, markets, U.S. foreign trade, and world statistics. Information on ordering a copy may be obtained by contacting the Association's Publications Department at (301) 645-0756.

TABLE 1  
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
1996: 5/	3,577	1,710	1,570	3,290	1,910	498	2,410	9,270	1,830
1996:									
June	293	145	122	267	169	40	210	769	1,980
July	301	145	130	274	139	45	184	760	1,960
August	302	143	138	281	149	45	194	777	1,910
September	292	144	130	275	136	43	179	746	1,890
October	304	156	137	293	170	45	215	812	1,840
November	295	143	130	273	147	41	188	756	1,830
December	305	147	128	276	180	39	219	800	1,830
Jan.-June	1,777	889	756	1,650	988	239	1,230	4,650	1,980
1997:									
January	305	161 r/	139 r/	299 r/	145	42	188	792 r/	1,840
February	277	154 r/	133 r/	287 r/	147	37	184	748 r/	1,830
March	307	162 r/	143 r/	305 r/	209	48	257	869 r/	1,810
April	295	162 r/	143 r/	305 r/	196	48	244	844 r/	1,810
May	304	160 r/	137 r/	297 r/	198	49	247	849	1,770
June	296	161	135	297	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jan.-June	1,786	960	831	1,790	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from Current Industrial Reports, Series M33D, U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.

5/ Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2  
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
1996: 2/	1,580	1,210	1,410	1,250	780	720	105	93	11	10	3,880	3,290
1996:												
June	124	101	108	96	66	61	9	8	1	1	308	267
July	124	101	110	97	73	67	9	8	1	1	317	274
August	125	102	123	109	66	61	9	8	1	1	324	281
September	125	101	110	98	73	67	9	8	1	1	317	275
October	125	102	125	111	77	71	9	9	1	1	337	293
November	125	101	113	101	68	63	9	8	(3/)	(3/)	315	273
December	124	100	113	100	72	67	9	8	1	1	318	276
Jan.-June	743	602	713	635	386	356	54	49	3	3	1,900	1,650
1997:												
January	142 r/	109 r/	126	113 r/	77 r/	71 r/	7	6	1	1	353 r/	299 r/
February	141 r/	108 r/	116	104 r/	75 r/	69 r/	7 r/	6	(3/)	(3/)	339 r/	287 r/
March	142 r/	109 r/	132	116	80 r/	74 r/	7	6	(3/)	(3/)	361 r/	305 r/
April	144 r/	111 r/	129 r/	114	79 r/	73 r/	7	7	1	1	359 r/	305 r/
May	143 r/	110 r/	124	110	75	70 r/	8 r/	7 r/	1	1	351 r/	297 r/
June	143	110	125	111	75	70	7	6	1	1	350	297
Jan.-June	855	656	752	668	461	426	42	37	3	3	2,110	1,790

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes monthly and annual data.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN JUNE 1997 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	119,000	143,000	91,400	110,000
Integrated aluminum companies	125,000	125,000	111,000	111,000
Independent mill fabricators	62,700	75,300	58,000	69,500
Foundries	5,430	6,520	4,850	5,820
Other consumers	652	783	652	783
Total	312,000	350,000	266,000	297,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN  
JUNE 1997 1/

(Metric tons)

	Stocks, opening	Net receipts 2/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing
New scrap:				
Solids	22,400 r/	88,200	84,700	25,900
Can stock clippings	5,450 r/	23,600	23,000	6,080
Other clippings	5,800 r/	15,000	15,100	5,710
Borings and turnings	5,590 r/	20,000	20,000	5,550
Dross and skimmings	2,970 r/	27,700	27,500	3,120
Total new scrap	42,200 r/	174,000	170,000	46,400
Old scrap:				
Used casting, sheet, and clippings	30,600 r/	54,800	54,700	30,800
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,060 r/	1,370	1,380	1,050
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	27,000 r/	78,100	80,200	24,900
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	W	W	W	W
Other	1,170 r/	5,150	5,150	1,170
Total old scrap	59,800 r/	140,000	141,000	58,000
Sweated pig	1,360 r/	706	706	1,360
Total all classes	103,000 r/	315,000	312,000	106,000

r/ Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other."

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5  
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS  
IN THE UNITED STATES IN JUNE 1997 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing
Die cast alloys:				
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,570	6,000	6,000	3,570
380 and variations	12,400 r/	40,100	40,100	12,400
Sand and permanent mold:				
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	13,100 r/	1,920	1,920	13,100
No. 319 and variations	3,050 r/	10,800	10,800	3,050
F-132 alloy and variations	1,960 r/	3,670	3,670	1,960
Al-Zn alloys	453	225	225	452
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	200 r/	802	802	200
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	60	77	77	60
Other 3/	2,620 r/	7,770	7,610	2,770
Wrought alloys:				
Extrusion billets	5,600 r/	13,000	13,000	5,570
Total all alloys	43,000 r/	84,300	84,200	43,200
Less:				
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	4,640	XX	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	6,570	XX	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	427	XX	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 4/	XX	72,700	XX	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

4/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 1997 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	May	Jan. - May	May	Jan. - May	May	Jan. - May	May	Jan. - May
Argentina	1,450	5,560	59	162	--	1,760	1,510	7,490
Australia	147	930	63	206	215	842	425	1,980
Bahrain	--	--	1,590	3,500	--	--	1,590	3,500
Belgium	--	37	414	2,300	--	117	414	2,460
Bosnia and Herzegovina	--	--	--	17	--	--	--	17
Brazil	4,030	10,300	15	39	42	62	4,080	10,400
Canada	112,000	606,000	30,000	137,000	21,400	96,600	163,000	839,000
Croatia	--	--	36	159	--	--	36	159
Czech Republic	--	--	3	23	--	--	3	23
France	26	145	908	3,580	409	2,530	1,340	6,250
Germany	109	206	2,490	12,200	--	1,140	2,600	13,600
Hungary	--	4	459	1,130	--	--	459	1,130
Italy	--	--	137	1,220	16	16	153	1,230
Japan	1	125	1,400	7,310	79	297	1,480	7,730
Korea, Republic of	--	29	42	108	66	1,230	109	1,370
Lithuania	17	17	--	--	--	--	17	17
Mexico	118	817	1,130	5,350	8,010	34,500	9,260	40,700
Netherlands	2,280	2,290	492	2,020	--	820	2,770	5,130
Norway	65	178	77	1,090	--	--	142	1,260
Russia	58,900	194,000	84	6,790	196	1,290	59,100	202,000
Slovakia	38	193	--	--	--	--	38	193
Slovenia	--	--	230	1,300	--	--	230	1,300
South Africa	--	4,180	294	1,540	183	581	478	6,310
Spain	--	1	738	4,330	--	7	738	4,340
Sweden	--	4,070	283	1,330	--	341	283	5,740
Switzerland	--	--	346	1,040	--	--	346	1,040
Ukraine	--	596	--	19	--	--	--	615
United Arab Emirates	--	--	--	--	163	699	163	699
United Kingdom	6,740	6,940	1,720	7,000	441	4,590	8,900	18,500
Venezuela	10,300	53,800	3,420	12,600	1,460	7,160	15,100	73,500
Other	1,930	5,000	2,440	11,300	5,490	22,500	9,850	38,700
Total	198,000	895,000	48,900	224,000	38,200	177,000	285,000	1,300,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN MAY 1997 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	May	Jan. - May	May	Jan. - May	May	Jan. - May	May	Jan. - May
Australia	3	196	211	1,400	--	1	214	1,600
Belgium	--	7	1,430	5,010	--	97	1,430	5,110
Brazil	2	13	4,130	26,100	5	8	4,140	26,100
Canada	12,200	60,100	35,900	180,000	7,890	36,100	56,000	276,000
China	7	591	4,030	18,100	4,470	14,700	8,510	33,400
Czech Republic	--	--	2	5	--	--	2	5
Dominican Republic	--	(2/)	228	1,030	--	--	228	1,030
Estonia	--	3	9	9	--	--	9	12
France	13	81	490	1,980	2	5	504	2,070
Georgia	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	3
Germany	27	265	999	5,390	--	24	1,030	5,680
Hong Kong	218	1,490	1,520	6,700	2,870	13,700	4,610	21,900
India	(2/)	1	13	45	--	104	14	151
Israel	4	13	70	325	--	--	74	338
Italy	1	32	173	1,390	--	20	174	1,440
Japan	3,840	37,600	3,470	15,700	3,600	17,200	10,900	70,600
Korea, Republic of	1,100	6,700	3,260	11,800	2,430	14,000	6,800	32,400
Malaysia	83	89	553	2,720	226	524	862	3,330
Mexico	4,420	20,800	6,580	42,800	2,430	11,700	13,400	75,300
Netherlands	12	56	153	659	24	24	188	739
Russia	--	--	--	4	--	--	--	4
Saudi Arabia	3	3	3,780	9,640	--	--	3,780	9,640
Singapore	12	84	419	1,660	24	24	456	1,770
Spain	6	6	233	1,360	--	36	239	1,400
Sweden	--	1	8	38	--	--	8	39
Taiwan	1,440	4,720	1,070	3,860	4,720	25,200	7,230	33,800
Thailand	252	1,330	546	3,190	216	782	1,010	5,310
United Kingdom	175	476	1,150	7,550	640	4,580	1,960	12,600
Venezuela	--	90	560	3,830	--	70	560	3,990
Other	272	1,250	6,170	30,300	147	1,480	6,590	33,000
Total	24,100	136,000	77,200	382,000	29,700	140,000	131,000	659,000

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: Bureau of the Census.